



B O R O U G H O F N E W R O M N E Y
K E N T

ANNUAL REPORTS OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR
1 9 7 0



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BOROUGH OF NEW ROMNEY (KENT)

Annual Reports of the Medical Officer of Health and
of the Public Health Inspector for the Year 1970

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report for the year 1970.

Population

The Registrar-General's estimate of the mid-year Home Population was 3,640 which was a decrease of 30 from that of the previous year.

Live Births and Birth Rate

The number of live births was 55 (32M. 23F.) which was an increase of 5 from that of the previous year and the crude birth-rate was accordingly 15.1; after adjustment by the Registrar-General's Comparability factor which is computed from a population standardised for age and sex distribution and allows valid comparison with other Districts the rate becomes 17.1 this being higher than that of 16.0 for England and Wales.

Stillbirths and Rate

There were two stillbirths registered during the year. The still-birth rate was accordingly 35.0 compared with 13.0 for England and Wales.

Infant Mortality and Rate

One infant death was registered due to:-

..... Prematurity 45 mins.

The infantile mortality rate was 18.0 compared with that of 18.0 for England and Wales.

Maternal Deaths and Mortality Rate

This rate was nil as there were no maternal deaths from Pregnancy, Childbirth or Abortion and is a general index of the high standard of modern obstetric practice.

Total Deaths and Death Rate

The total number of deaths from all causes was 48 (30M. 18F.) and the crude death rate was 13.2 which after adjustment by the Registrar General's Comparability Factor, as for births, becomes 14.4 compared with that of 11.7 for England and Wales.

The chief group cause of deaths was from the natural causes of death amongst the aged, i.e. Heart and Circulatory Diseases and Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System, of which there were 24 in number.

Ischaemic Heart Disease (i.e. Coronary Thrombosis and Coronary Atheroma) was the cause of 15 (12M. 3F.) of those deaths, in the following age-groups:- 2 between 45 - 55; 1 between 55 - 64; 6 between 65 - 74 and 6 over 75 years.

Cancer, as invariably in previous years, was the second highest cause of deaths, of which there were 12 in the following age-groups:- 1 between 45 - 54; 3 between 55 - 64; 6 between 65 - 74 and 2 over 75 years of age. In these days of modern treatment, the disease can be treated with success, if patients would consult their Doctors

reasonably early, before the disease becomes too advanced.

Cancer of the Lung/Bronchus was the cause of 5 of those deaths (3M. 2F.) in the following age groups:- 1 between 55 - 64; 3 between 65 - 74 and 1 over 75 years.

Cancer causes a relentless toll of human lives all over the world and is invariably the second highest cause of deaths of which heart and arterial diseases are the chief cause; the majority of the latter cases are due to old age and coronary thrombosis. However, many deaths from Cancer occur in younger age-groups, usually over the age of 40 years. The majority are in all probability due to delay by patients in seeking medical advice, having regard also to the fact that the onset of the disease is insidious or latent.

It is an old adage that 'prevention is better than cure', and there is sufficient modern knowledge about the causes of some forms of Cancer to enable their prevention.

Modern surgery and X-rays and other radiations used, singly or in combination, have transformed the treatment of this group of diseases.

Almost all skin Cancers and over 80% of Cancers of the Cervix of the Uterus can be cured if they are treated early.

The other causes of death were miscellaneous and there was no death due to Infectious Disease.

Infectious Diseases

The following cases of infectious diseases were notified during the year:-

Scarlet Fever	29
Measles.....	9
Whooping Cough	5

A new era in the history of the prevalence of serious Infectious Diseases has been reached, in prevention and treatment. For example, the remarkable advance in this Century of medical science, with emphasis on the last 40 years, has prevented by vaccination and immunisation lethal and disabling infections such as Poliomyelitis, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and recently Measles and German Measles and by treatment with specific Anti-biotics and Sulpha Drugs, diseases caused by bacteria such as Acute Meningitis, the Pneumonias, Puerperal Sepsis, Scarlet Fever, Erysipelas, Typhoid, Paratyphoid Fevers and Food Poisoning etc.

Influenza, which is still epidemic in the winter months is by and large the most dangerous infection and it is still equivocal whether vaccination is preventive, unless a vaccine specific to the strain which is likely to become epidemic is prepared in time before the epidemic occurs. Fortunately, there was no outbreak of this dangerous infection during the winter months.

All virus infections per se do not respond to treatment by the Anti-biotics or Sulpha drugs, but fortunately serious complications caused by bacteria usually respond successfully to treatment.

Vaccination against the virus of Measles and German Measles has recently been introduced, and it is expected that the biennial outbreaks which occur will be eventually controlled. Vaccination is available at the Child Welfare Clinics and from the Family Doctor.

Vaccination against German Measles has also been recently introduced for girls aged about 13 - 14 years which would prevent congenital malformations amongst babies whose mothers might suffer from

this infection during the early months of pregnancy.

Tuberculosis

There were no new cases of Respiratory or Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis notified during the year - also there were no deaths which is a reflection of the efficaciousness of modern treatment.

This disease, which in past medical history has been a scourge of man and was known as the 'White Plague', is in these days almost completely under control, by prevention (including the elimination of housing overcrowding and a higher standard of living), and by treatment. Since 1950, the number of cases amongst adolescents amongst whom it was most common, has gradually decreased to a minimum. Protection of school children by B.C.G. vaccination which is offered to those aged 13 years and over, has been an important factor.

Food Poisoning

There were no cases of Food Poisoning notified during the year. This fact is an excellent tribute to the invaluable routine preventive work in Food Hygiene carried through by the Public Health Inspectorate.

In conclusion I would state that the Public Health of the District was very satisfactory throughout the year and I would like to thank you for your support of and interest in the Department and the Staff for their co-operation and efficiency.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

J. MARSHALL, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Central Public Health Office,
14, Church Road,
Ashford, Kent.

Tel. No. Ashford 24411.

STATISTICAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT

FOR 1970

Area:- 1,514 acres.

Registrar-General's Estimate of:-

The Resident Population	...	...	...	...	3,640
Number of Inhabited Houses According to the Rate Books	...				1,478
Rateable Value	...	...	...		£143,053
Sum Represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	...		£1,328

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

The ancient and historical Cinque Port of New Romney is today predominantly an Agricultural District. There are also within the Borough the workshops of the Romney, Hythe, Dymchurch Light Railway and a few small factories. Part of the boundary is formed by the sea at Littlestone and Greatstone where there are wide expanses of sand which attract many summer visitors and holiday-makers. There is some unemployment but not of a serious nature and social conditions may generally be regarded as being satisfactory.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

	<u>Total</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>		<u>New Romney Borough</u>	<u>England and Wales</u>
1. <u>Live Births</u>	55	32	23	Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	15.1 (Adjusted Rate 17.1)	16.0
(a) Legitimate	50	29	21			
(b) Illegitimate	5	3	2			
2. <u>Stillbirths</u>	2	1	1	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	35.0	13.0
(a) Legitimate	2	1	1			
(b) Illegitimate	-	-	-			
3. <u>Total live and stillbirths</u>	57	33	24			
4. <u>Deaths</u>	48	30	18	Death Rate per 1,000 resident population	13.2 (Adjusted Rate 14.4)	11.7
5. <u>Deaths from Pregnancy, Child- birth, Abortion</u>	-	-	-	Rate per 1,000 live births	-	Not Available
6. <u>Deaths of Infants Under One Year of Age</u>	1	-	1	Rate per 1,000 live births	18.0	18.0
(a) Legitimate	1	-	1	Rate per 1,000 live births (legitimate)	20.0	17.0
(b) Illegitimate	-	-	-	Rate per 1,000 live births (illegitimate)	Nil	26.0
7. <u>Perinatal Mortality</u> 1	-	-	1	Rate per 1,000 total births	53.0	23.0
(Stillbirths and deaths of infants under 1 week of age)						
(a) Legitimate	1	-	1			
(b) Illegitimate	-	-	-			
8. <u>Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births</u>						9%

CAUSES OF DEATH IN NEW ROMNEY BOROUGH DURING

1 9 7 0

<u>Causes of Death</u>	<u>Males</u> 30	<u>Females</u> 18
Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	1	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	1	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	1	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung Bronchus	3	2
Other Malignant Neoplasms	3	1
Anaemias	-	1
Hypertensive Disease	-	3
Ischaemic Heart Disease	12	3
Other Forms of Heart Disease	2	2
Cerebrovascular Disease	3	2
Influenza	1	-
Pneumonia	2	1
Cirrhosis of Liver	-	1
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	-	1
Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	-	1
All Other Accidents	1	-

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases and Mortality, 1970

<u>Age Periods</u>	<u>New Cases</u>				<u>Deaths</u>				<u>Total Cases on Register</u>			
	<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Non-Respiratory</u>		<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Non-Respiratory</u>		<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Non-Respiratory</u>	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	6	1	-
1 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
5 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
15 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
25 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
35 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
45 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
55 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
65 and upwards	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	6	1	-

There were no deaths from Tuberculosis of patients who had not been notified as suffering from this disease.

IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION

The following table shows figures for 1970 based on the return sent to the Department of Health and Social Security.

Year of Birth	Primary						Re-Inforcing						
	Triple Antigen	Diph./ Tet.	Smallpox	Tetanus	Measles	Polio-myelitis	Rubella	Triple Antigen	Diph./ Tet.	Smallpox	Tetanus	Measles	Polio-myelitis
1970	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1969	34	-	38	-	2	68	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
1968	27	3	-	-	6	33	-	5	13	-	-	-	-
1967	1	-	-	-	2	2	-	9	18	-	-	-	-
1966	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	7	-	-	-	3
1963-1964	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	13	-	-	-	5
1965	1	-	-	-	5	-	-	2	62	-	2	-	68
1954-1962	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	3	3	3	-	5
Total	63	3	38	6	16	105	-	18	117	3	5	-	81

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLY

The quantity of water supplied to the area is adequate and the supply is not plumbo-solvent.

(A) Examination of Water Supplies during the Year

	<u>Bacteriological Examination</u>			<u>Chemical Examination</u>		
	<u>No. of Samples</u>	<u>Satis- factory</u>	<u>Not Satis- factory</u>	<u>No. of Samples</u>	<u>Satis- factory</u>	<u>Not Satis- factory</u>
Statutory supply undertaking	-	-	-	-	-	-
Private sources piped to dwellings	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other private sources	-	-	-	-	-	-

(B) (i) Number of dwellings not supplied by public water mains or other adequate pipes supplies ... Nil

(ii) Number of dwellings in the area ... 1,476

(C) Brief details as to extensions of water mains during the year:-

No extensions except to new dwellings only.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Reference to additions or improvements in respect of sewerage systems or sewage disposal works and also to new schemes constructed during the year:-

The work of constructing a new sewage works and sewerage system were commenced in May, 1969 and work is now more than 80% complete. It is expected to commission this works March/April, 1971.

FOOD (INCLUDING ICE CREAM AND MILK) AND FOOD PREPARING PREMISES

- (i) (a) the number of food premises in the area 42
- (b) the number of food premises registered under Section 16 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1955 34
- (i) Retailers of Ice Cream 32
- (ii) Preparation and manufacture of Sausages and Preserved Foods etc. 2
- (c) the number of inspections of registered food premises 31
- (d) the method of disposal of condemned food - Disposal to Council tip.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

Number of inspections of:-

Butchers and meat products manufacturers	..	..	2
Catering Establishments and Clubs	..	..	14
Dairies	..	..	3
Fish (including fried)	..	..	10

FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1955 Number of inspections Continued

Licensed Premises	..	..	5
Slaughterhouses	..	..	-
Stalls, Itinerant Vendors, and delivery vans	..	..	-
All other food premises	..	..	54

Number of Informal (including Verbal) Notices Served (Food and Drugs Act - Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955) 1

Number of Food Premises improved as a result of notices served 1

Inspection of Food and Food-Preparing Premises

Brief particulars of any action, including inspection of meat and other foods, slaughterhouses, stalls, vehicles and food-preparing places:-

Nothing unusual to report.

(ii) Milk and Dairies

Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959

No. of registered distributors	...	...	...	4
No. of registered dairies	...	...	...	Nil

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

Almost all of food condemned has been tinned, either because of blown or damaged tins.

Total value about £46.00, consisting of:-

Meat and Fish Products	..	..	..	60lbs
Other Foods	...	..	..	210lbs
Total weight	..	..	..	270lbs

PUBLIC HEALTH & HOUSING ACTS

Houses in clearance areas and unfit houses elsewhere

A. HOUSES DEMOLISHED	IN OR ADJOINING CLEARANCE AREAS declared under Section 42 of the Hsg. Act, 1957	Unfit for human habitation	Number of houses	Nil
			Number of separate dwellings contained therein	Nil
		Included by reason of bad arrangement	Number of houses	Nil
			Number of separate dwellings contained therein	Nil
		On land acquired under Section 43(2) Housing Act, 1957	Number of houses	Nil
			Number of separate dwellings contained therein	Nil
		As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 16 or 17(1) Housing Act, 1957	Number of houses	Nil
			Number of separate dwellings contained therein	Nil

PUBLIC HEALTH & HOUSING ACTS (CONTINUED)

A. HOUSES DEMOLISHED	NOT IN OR ADJOINING CLEARANCE AREAS	Local authority owned certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health	Number of houses	6
			Number of separate dwellings contained therein	6
		Houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under local Acts	Number of houses	Nil
			Number of separate dwellings contained therein	Nil
		Houses included in unfitness orders made under para. 2 of the Second Schedule to the Land Comp- ensation Act, 1961	Number of houses	Nil
			Number of separate dwellings contained therein	Nil
		Number of separate dwellings included above which were previously reported as closed in pursuance of closing orders or undertakings	Reported as closed up to 31st December, 1964	Nil
			Reported as closed since 31st December, 1964	Nil
B. UNFIT HOUSES CLOSED in Pursuance of closing orders or undertakings	Under Sections 16(4), 17(1) and 35(1) Housing Act, 1957 and Section 26 Housing Act, 1961	Number of houses	Nil	
		Number of separate dwellings contained therein	Nil	
	Under Section 17(3) and 26 Housing Act, 1957	Number of houses	Nil	
		Number of separate dwellings contained therein	Nil	
	PARTS OF BUILDINGS CLOSED under Section 18 Housing Act, 1957	Number of dwellings	1	
C. Number of PERSONS DISPLACED	From houses to be demolished in or adjoining clearance areas		Nil	
	From houses to be demolished not in or adjoining clearance areas		Nil	
	From houses to be closed		Nil	
	From parts of buildings to be closed		Nil	
D. Number of FAMILIES DISPLACED	From houses to be demolished in or adjoining clearance areas		Nil	
	From houses to be demolished not in or adjoining clearance areas		Nil	
	From houses to be closed		Nil	
	From parts of buildings to be closed		Nil	
E. UNFIT HOUSES MADE FIT	After informal action by the local authority by owner		Nil	
	After formal notice under Sections 9 and 16 Housing Act, 1957	(a) by owner	Nil	
		(b) by local authority	Nil	
	After formal notice under Public Health Acts		Nil	
	Previously included in a clearance order which has been or will be modified or revoked under Section 24, Housing Act, 1961		Nil	

PUBLIC HEALTH & HOUSING ACTS (CONTINUED)

E. UNFIT HOUSES MADE FIT	Previously included in a demolition order which has been or will be revoked under Section 24 Housing Act, 1957			Nil
	Previously included in a closing order which has been or will be determined under Section 27 Housing Act, 1957			Nil
F. HOUSES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE REMEDIED (Other than unfit houses made fit) after formal notice under Public Health Acts				Nil
G. UNFIT HOUSES IN TEMPORARY USE (Housing Act, 1957)	Retained for temporary accommodation	Under Section 48	Number of houses	Nil
			Number of separate dwellings contained therein	Nil
		Under Section 17(2)	Number of houses	1
			Number of separate dwellings contained therein	1
		Under Section 46	Number of houses	Nil
			Number of separate dwellings contained therein	Nil
	Licensed for temporary accommodation under Section 34 or 53 - Number of houses			Nil
H. PURCHASE OF HOUSES BY AGREE- MENT	Houses in clearance areas other than those included in confirmed orders or compulsory purchase orders		Number of houses	Nil
			Number of occupants	Nil

IMPROVEMENTS AND CONVERSIONS

GRANTS

No schemes were submitted during the year but 3 schemes approved in respect of three houses in 1969 were completed and grants paid.

Total costs £624

Grants paid £303

INSPECTIONS - Summary of inspections made:-

Public Health Act, 1936 and Housing Acts, 1957

Number of inspections of dwellings re repairs 527

Number of dwellings made fit 193

Number of inspections for purposes of Sections 16/17 Housing Act (Demolition and Closing Orders) 7

Number of inspections of clearance areas Nil

Number of inspections for general survey and assessment Nil

Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958

Housing Subsidies and Standard Grant

Number of inspections in connection with Improvement Grants 5

Number of inspections in connection with Standard Grants 14

INSPECTIONS - Summary of inspections made:-

Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954 and Rents Act, 1957

Number of inspections re Certificates of Disrepair	Nil
Number of inspections re Certificates as to Remedying of Defects	Nil

Housing (General)

Number of inspections re housing applications	9
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Public Health Act

Number of inspections re:-

Tents, Vans and Sheds	5
Aged and Infirm Persons	9
Vermin	7
Dirty Houses	12
Offensive accumulations	2
Offensive Odours	3
Nuisance from Keeping Animals	Nil

NOTICES SERVED

Informal

Formal

Public Health Acts

12

-

Housing Acts

-

-

HOUSING

(i) Number of families on Council's waiting list at the end of year	61
(ii) Number of Council houses built during the year ..	None
(iii) Number of Private houses built during the year ..	7

CARAVAN SITES

<u>Names and addresses of Licensed Sites</u>	<u>No. of Caravans on each Site</u>	<u>Estimated Permanent Population</u>
New Romney Caravan Site, Clark Road, Greatstone	154	Nil

CESSPOOL EMPTYING

Two cesspool emptiers remained in constant service throughout the year. A new vehicle has been ordered and the oldest vehicle will then serve as a reserve. Number of loads removed 4,627.

DRAINAGE

Total number of inhabited houses (including flats) is	1, 476
Total number of houses connected to the sewers	804
Number of houses not connected to the sewers	672
Number of houses connected to cesspools	652

DRAINAGE CONTINUED

Number of houses with pail closets Nil

REFUSE COLLECTIONS AND DISPOSAL

Four loaders and one driver continue to be employed on the refuse vehicle. Some Council houses are on paper sack system and all the Council Estate are gradually being converted to this system.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 to 1959

1. Inspections for purposes of provision as to health
(including inspections made by Public Health Inspector)

Premises (1)	Number on Reg- ister (2)	Number of		
		Inspec- tions (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
i) Factories in which Section 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by local authorities	-	-	-	-
ii) Factories not included in (i) which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	18	9	-	-
iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)	-	-	-	-
Total	18	9	-	-

2. Cases in which defects were found

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecution were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	To H.M. Inspect- or (4)	By H.M. Inspect- or (5)	
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	1*	-	-	-	-

Remarks - * This is expected to be abated in the near future.

Part VIII of the Act - Outwork - Section 110 and 111

There are no Outworkers employed in the Borough

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FOOD

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

	TYPE OF PROPERTY	
	<u>NON- AGRICULTURAL</u>	<u>AGRICULTURAL</u>
PROPERTIES OTHER THAN SEWERS		
i. Number of properties in district	1,701	2
ii. (a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	33	-
(b) Number infested by:-		
i) Rats	22	-
ii) Mice	3	-
iii. (a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	409	2
(b) Number infested by:-		
i) Rats	2	-
ii) Mice	-	-

